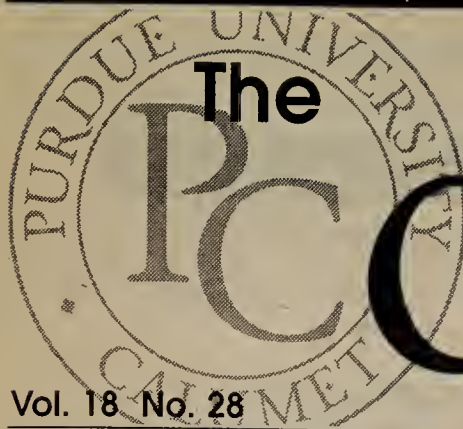




**Sports**  
Grantz Rantz on tacky demonstrations of encouragement

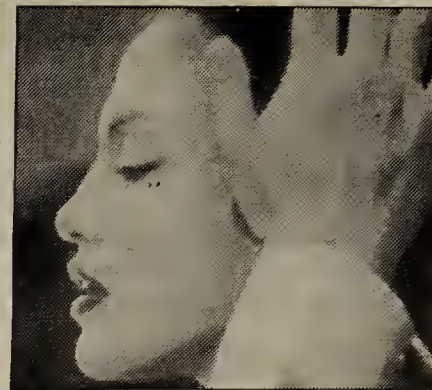
See page 8

**Opinion**  
Flying the unfriendly skies

See page 4

**Entertainment**  
Jennifer Lopez returns in bizarre, weak-plotted effort "The Cell."

See page 7



# The Chronicle

Vol. 18 No. 28

Monday, August 28, 2000

## Work in progress



Photo by Skye Enyeart

Although Gene Sullivan, director of facilities planning and scheduling, announced earlier this summer that the construction on the south entrance of the SFLC building would be completed by the start of fall classes, the project is ongoing. A circular driveway and canopy are being constructed, along with additional sidewalks. At least one south entrance will remain open during most of the construction, except when overhead construction causes temporary hazards.

## Class unavailability angers students

■ New semester begins with the same problem faced by both students and faculty

JEN BERG  
Staff Writer

It's already her fourth year at PUC and Lisa Mish, a senior majoring in English with an emphasis in professional writing, is worrying how to piece together her classes around her full-time job. Evenings are her only choice for classes. Like other PUC students, she has to work a full day and then attend night classes. So far, she has repeated the same course twice, not because of her grades — she has a 3.71 GPA — but due to the lack of any other course times being offered. Her electives are completed, but she said her core requirements have been neglected because of scheduling difficulties and a lack of flexibility in time slots in the English department.

"I couldn't get two classes together to save my life," Mish said.

Mish is not the only student who is having problems with PUC's scheduling and the courses offered to English students. Katy Glinski, a senior and English literature major, recently had to postpone her graduation due to a class not being offered until the following semester. Like Mish, Glinski had to change her scheduling to accommodate the English department's course offerings.

"Purdue, especially the English department, needs to be more accommodating. It makes me think that they want to keep us here as

long as possible just so they can get more money," Glinski said.

Michael Dobberstein, an associate professor of English and philosophy, who does the scheduling for the English department, reports hearing complaints of class offerings and course times before. Dobberstein said his policy for courses required for majors are usually rotated between day-time and evening each semester.

"I'm not sure what else we can do to accommodate students' needs. I hear these complaints all the time. There may have been a time when we didn't rotate those courses as systematically as we should have. We are doing that now. I am sure there are students in other departments who complain about not getting into courses too," Dobberstein said.

"Lisa Mish has the problem that she can only take evening classes, since she works during the day. So she's a little bit handicapped and in a sense her complaints are not exactly fair," Dobberstein added.

Mish believes the English department caters to a few, right-out-of-high-school students who are working part time, and they don't care to face the fact that this is an extension

campus and many of their students have mortgages to pay.

"Dobberstein even asked me once if I've ever asked my employer if I could rework my work hours. The funny thing about that one is that my employer pays me to be here, and he sets my work

**"I'm not sure what else we can do to accommodate students' needs. I hear these complaints all the time."**

Michael Dobberstein, associate professor of English and philosophy

hours. I pay PUC, but don't have a right to be upset about their work hours. Something's wrong with this picture," Mish said.

"I understand Lisa's concerns and we've worked with her to get the requirements that she needs. I imagine she's still critical of the way we do things. It's very difficult to meet the needs of students with specific time restraints," Dobberstein said.

According to Dennis Barbour, head of English and philosophy, the rotation of courses runs on a two-year plan. There are bulletins posted outside the English and philosophy department offices when special classes are being offered. Students can also ask the department secretary to see the next semester's schedule.

"It's not done by whim or by personal feelings. A person almost needs a crystal ball to be able to know what class might fit everyone's schedule or be acceptable to a certain semester and keep everyone happy. It's extremely difficult," Barbour said.

## Yackel announces retirement

JADE LEE CULBERSON  
Copy Editor

Chancellor James Yackel has announced that he will retire as of next July 1 due to the mandatory retirement age of 65 for chancellors within the Purdue University system.

Yackel said that he made the announcement a year in advance in order to leave ample time for the next chancellor to be chosen.

According to Wes Lukoshus, director of the Office of University Relations, a committee will be selected by Purdue University President Martin C. Jischke to conduct an open search for a successor to Yackel.

Yackel said that he has no intention of starting any new initiatives during his final year, but he does plan to finish outstanding projects as needed.

Lukoshus said Yackel will be given opportunities over the course of the year to reflect on his years in higher education and key issues.

Yackel said that he does not intend to remain at PUC to teach, but he is still considering his options. He added that it is likely, but not definite, that he will stay in the area.

Lukoshus said that he has

enjoyed working for Yackel, and has appreciated Yackel's open-door policy.

"I think what's key to my job is information access, and he's always been helpful in that regard," Lukoshus said.

Lukoshus added that Yackel has a positive administrative style which entailed trusting his staff to carry out their duties on their own.

Jerry Wermuth, executive assistant to the chancellor, has worked with Yackel since 1987, when Yackel joined PUC's administrative staff as vice-chancellor of academic affairs.

"Working with him is wonderful. I probably couldn't have asked for a better superior," Wermuth said.

Lukoshus said that he believes that Yackel has been a positive factor in the growth of PUC as a university.

"Over the course of time, Purdue has gone from a one-building school to a full-service university, and I think Chancellor Yackel has had a big part in that," Lukoshus said.

In a press release issued by the Office of University Relations, former Purdue University President Steven Beering said that



James Yackel

See Yackel, Page 3

## Library plugs into e-books

KIMBERLY MC CRARY  
Staff Writer

PUC has recently invested in what some might feel to be the future of libraries. The library has started to loan a new creation called the Rocket e-Book.

It was initially introduced to PUC's faculty on July 26, when faculty and staff were given an opportunity to explore 10 Rocket e-Book readers.

There are two models currently available. The Rocket e-Book Pro, which holds about 15,200 pages (40 books or documents), weighs only 22 ounces. Then there is Soft Book, which is somewhat bigger and holds only 10 books or documents, but is less



Photo by Skye Enyeart

Kenya Cheairs, a junior in Chemistry, demonstrates how electronic books are utilized at the PUC library.

See E-books, Page 3



## ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

### Revising our smoke free campus policy

When Purdue Calumet implemented its smoke-free policy in 1992—the first campus in Indiana to do so—smoking became prohibited in all campus buildings.

Smokers, be they faculty, staff, students or visitors, who wished to smoke on campus had to do so outdoors. Frequently, that resulted in a gathering of smokers right outside building entryways—especially so during the throes of raw and adverse weather conditions.

That prompted concerns and complaints from individuals entering and exiting building doorways that were permeated by smoke.

The Campus Wellness Council was asked to study the matter and make recommendations, the result of which prompted the following Revised Smoke Free Campus Policy, issued by Chancellor Yackel, Aug. 16.

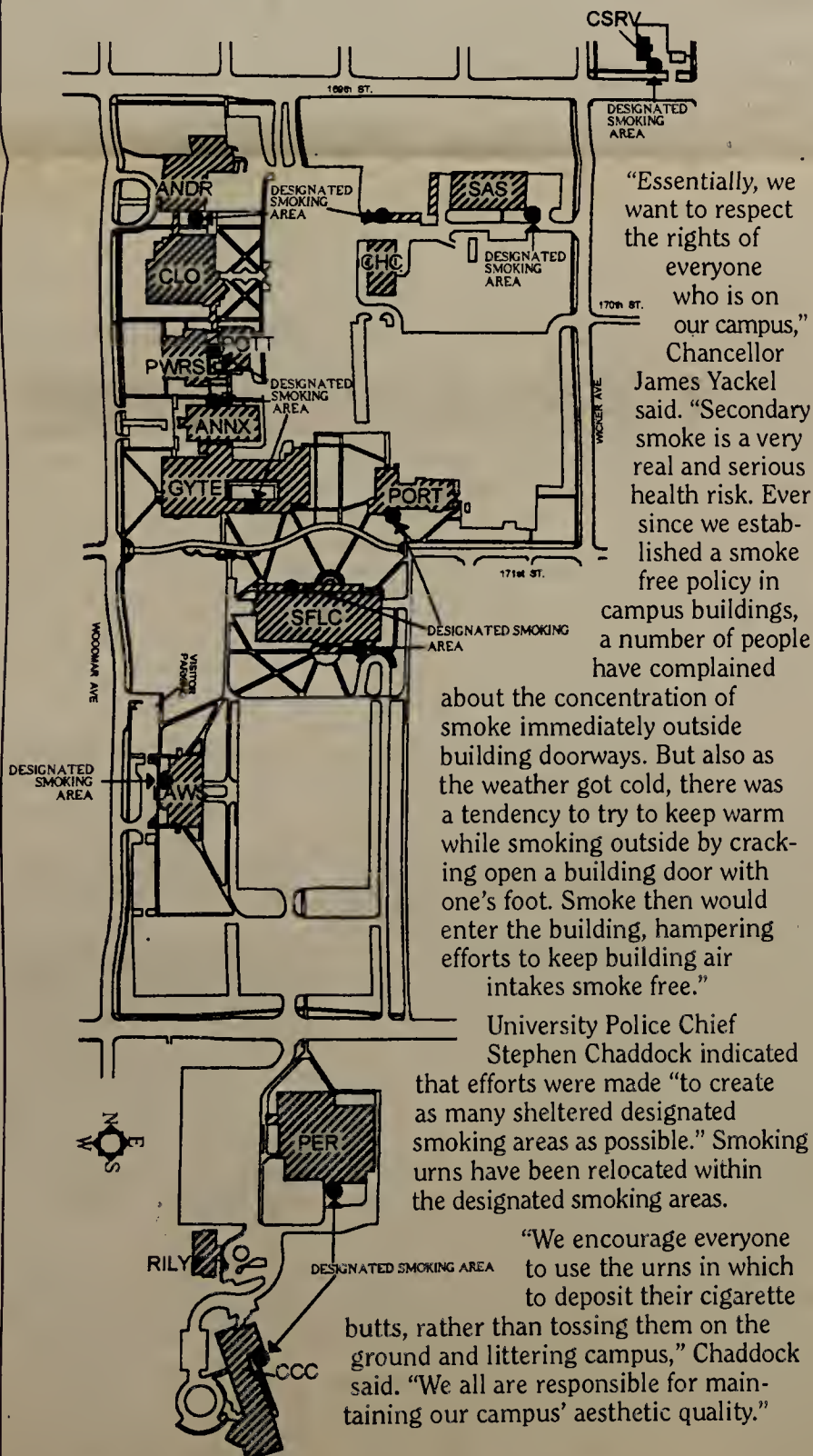
#### Revised Smoke Free Campus Policy

[Supersedes Chancellor's Memorandum No. A-200, dated July 15, 1992]

*Chancellor's Memorandum No. A-200 limited smoking to the exterior of campus buildings. In recent years, concern has been expressed about the amount of smoke in building doorways that affected those entering and leaving campus buildings. There has also been concern expressed about smoke entering the buildings from its concentration around building doorways. The campus Wellness Council was asked to review the situation and to make recommendations. Their report has been received and reviewed by myself and other members of the Purdue University Calumet community.*

*Effective immediately, smoking will be limited to sites at least 50 feet from any campus building doorway. Smoking will be permitted in designated campus areas adjacent to campus buildings and elsewhere remote from campus buildings. The designated smoking areas will be identified by appropriate signage.*

(A map of designated smoking areas appears below.)



## At a glance

### around campus

#### Pride Alliance seeking members

Pride Alliance is a social, educational and networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender students and their heterosexual allies. E-mail pridally@xpc.calumet.purdue.edu with questions, comments or if interested in joining.

#### Student Support Services looking for readers

Student Support Services is looking for readers for the fall 2000 semester. This job allows readers to get paid for reading textbooks on tape for students. Junior or senior status is required. For more information, call Kristen at 989-2455.

#### Erector Spinae Universitas hosts co-ed volleyball tournament

Erector Spinae Universitas will be hosting a co-ed volleyball tournament on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. The entry fee is \$40 and a prize will be given to the first place team. Entry forms are available at the TFC desk and space is limited. The deadline for applications is Sept. 25. For more information, call 989-2175.

#### Mentors wanted

The Perkins Mentoring Program is looking for students to work as mentors. Mentors help incoming freshman become acquainted with the university environment.

The pay starts at \$6 per hour and hours are flexible. For more information contact Nikki Fitzgerald or Miriam Williams at 989-2664 or stop by GYTE-171.

#### Humane Society to host "Celebrate Pets" festival

The Humane Society of Hobart presents the "Celebrate Pets" Festival on Sept. 10 at Festival Park, located by Lake George in Hobart. A "Waggin' Walk" of Dogs begins at 10 a.m. Pre-registration is encouraged, but registration is available on site. Walkers must sign in by 9:30 a.m. Activities for children and their pets will be hosted by the Portage Boys and Girls Clubs. For more information and a pledge form, contact the Humane Society of Hobart at 942-0103.

To have a company name or logo on this year's T-shirt or to donate a prize, call the Humane Society and ask for Carol Konopacki.

#### Cultural Festival a celebration of diversity

The 28th Annual Cultural Festival will take place on Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Howard Branch Library and Morton High School.

The festival will include an extensive arts and crafts exhibits, food booths and a variety of performing groups beginning each day at noon. On Sunday, the festival will open with a naturalization ceremony for new citizens.

#### Gary library presents artwork of lifetime resident

"Seashore Collage," a display featuring seashell-designed mirrors by Beverly Miller can be viewed until Aug. 31 at the Wildermuth Branch Library located at 501 S. Lake St. in Gary. Miller is a lifetime Gary resident and a recent graduate of PUC.

The display will be open during regular library hours, Monday through Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### The Howard Branch of the Hammond Public Library offers computer classes

The Hammond Public Library is sponsoring an Internet class for beginners at the Howard Branch located at 7047 Grand Ave. A class on using e-mail will be held on Aug. 31 at 12:30 p.m. at the Howard Branch. These classes are free and open to the public.

#### Diabetes management classes offered

Saint Margaret Mercy Healthcare Centers is offering diabetes education programs that teach diet, general care and the diabetes process. Diabetes management classes are offered at various sites at morning, afternoon and evening times.

Contact Dorothy Klapak, diabetes nurse educator, at 933-2144 or 981-9305, ext. 32144 for more information on dates, times, locations and fees.

### Quote of the week

*'A bookstore is one of the only pieces of evidence we have that people are still thinking.'*

**-Jerry Seinfeld  
1954-**

## The Chronicle

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## While you were gone...

News and information that occurred while you were on vacation

### Dunn gets temporary LASS dean position

Kimberly McCrary  
Staff Writer

Dan Dunn, the executive dean at PUC, will be taking over the position of acting dean of the school of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences for the upcoming school year.

Saul Lerner, the previous acting dean of the school, decided to step down after three years in the position. Lerner decided to step down because he wants to dedicate more of his time to teaching history at the university.

### Completion of Anderson Building delayed

Jen Berg  
Staff Writer

The Anderson Building, which has been undergoing renovations for more than a year, has suffered construction delays.

Gene Sullivan, director of facilities planning and scheduling, has been working on this project since the beginning. He said that he can only speculate that the completion will be some time in the middle of September.

Sullivan said that the official completion of the Anderson Building was scheduled for Aug. 17, but that is no longer possible.

### New canopy and driveway to be completed by fall

Jade Lee Culberson  
Summer Managing Editor

Students returning to PUC in the fall will see a change in the appearance of the south entrance to the SFLC where a driveway and canopy are being constructed. Approximately 250 feet of canopy will reach from the east side of the driveway across the south side of the building.

Gene Sullivan, director of facilities planning and scheduling, said that, in addition, the walkways on the south side of the SFLC are being redone with concrete and seating areas are being constructed.

### EET gets a new department head

Kim McCrary  
Staff Writer

Professor Mohammad A. Zahraee has been named the head of the electrical engineering technology department.

Zahraee, a native of Iran, came to PUC in August 1989 as the department coordinator of the mechanical engineering technology department. Zahraee, who has a doctorate in engineering, became an associate professor of engineering in 1994, became the head of the MET department in 1996 and became a full professor in 1998.

For the rest of the story, go to [www.PUCchronicle.com](http://www.PUCchronicle.com)

## Yackel

Continued from page 1

Yackel's leadership skills caused PUC to have an invaluable role in changes taking place in Northwest Indiana.

"Jim (Yackel) is a highly-principled man whose unassuming leadership style has been effective in advancing the quality of Purdue Calumet's educational programs and its stature within the Calumet Region's business and industrial community," Beering said.

Lori Durham, assistant to the chancellor, worked in Yackel's office the entire time he has been chancellor, and worked with former PUC chancellor Richard Combs before that.

"Chancellor Yackel's commitment to PUC, its students and the populous of Northwest Indiana has been constantly responsive to the needs of the university and communities, providing tangible results. I believe PUC has become more visible in the community and the state due to his responsiveness to the many challenges of the last decade," Durham said.

According to the press release, Yackel, who joined PUC's faculty in 1987 as vice-chancellor for academic affairs, has directed a 10 percent enrollment increase since 1990. This has caused PUC to

have the highest enrollment of any Northwest Indiana college or university with 9,352 students officially enrolled last fall.

The percentage of black and Hispanic students enrolled at PUC has increased from 17 percent of the student body in 1990 to 25 percent, according to the press release.

Because of his accomplishments, some students on campus believe that the mandatory retirement age is a bad idea.

Dave McCullom, a graduate student majoring in English, said that he does not agree with the mandatory retirement age that chancellors in the Purdue system must follow.

"I think a person's ability and desire far outweigh chronological age. If Chancellor Yackel wanted to stay on, I think the majority of the faculty and students would love to have him," McCullom said.

Yackel said that two of his largest and favorite projects during his time as chancellor have been the entrepreneurship program, a training program for business owners and the new conference center.

"Since I've been chancellor, it's been very rewarding to see the enrollment rise and the stature of the campus grow. Clearly, we have good faculty and staff, too. It's been a good team effort," Yackel said.

## E-books

Continued from page 1

expensive. The Pro costs approximately \$300, while the Soft Book costs about \$200.

Rebecca Stankowski, the technical services librarian, said that the Rocket e-Book was created basically for the convenience and ease of reading novels and literature. It can be adjusted to a smaller and larger size type, and it has a back light for reading ease. A dictionary is available, as are bookmarks. There is an underline feature, a keyboard for typing

and an Etch-a-Sketch type notepad feature for note taking. There are many other features, such as the scroll bar and page back or forward option.

Although e-books don't offer the traditional feel of reading a novel, it offers other hi-tech conveniences such as a word search that will allow a quick reference to any subject included in the book currently being reviewed.

Rocket e-Book Pro, created around a year ago by Nuvo Media, is easily operated by touch control.

According to Kathryn

Carpenter, the library director, there are approximately 3,000 e-book titles currently, and the companies are adding 100 titles a day.

Carpenter said that she and Stankowski are very excited about PUC acquiring e-books.

Janice Barney, the assistant librarian, said that she thinks it will be less expensive than buying paperback books. She also said that e-books received a good response from the public at the first showing at the library on July 26.

For more information on e-books and their availability, call the PUC library at 989-2224.

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS
POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

**PUC police  
beat  
8/7/00 - 8/18/00**



**Monday, Aug. 7, 7:10 p.m.** A staff member reported a person trespassing in the main lab. The person had previously been warned by PUC police not to be in the lab because of inappropriate conduct. The subject was again warned and escorted off campus.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 3:30 p.m.** An unknown person shattered the glass in the northwest entrance door to the PER building. There was no evidence of what caused the damage.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 4:10 p.m.** PUC police discovered several juveniles trespassing in the library building and causing some minor mischief. The juveniles were confronted and their parents were notified. The juveniles cleaned up the mess and then were released to their parents.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 5:20 p.m.** A fitness center member reported his locker at the PER building was broken into and a credit card and money taken from his possessions.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 5:21 p.m.** A staff member reported his locker in the fitness center was broken into and two credit cards and money were taken from his possessions.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 5:40 p.m.** A student reported his locker in the fitness center was broken into and a credit card was taken from his wallet.

**Wednesday, August 9, 2:30 p.m.** A large window was broken out on the east side of the Challenger and Conference center by a rock that was accidentally thrown from a tree shredder working in the area.

**Thursday, Aug. 10, 6:37 p.m.** A contractor reported two subjects from the Teamsters Union threatened to picket the parking lot construction site in the P-13 parking lot west of the PER building. PUC police warned subjects no to trespass on PUC property while picketing. They left without incident.

**Friday, Aug. 11, 2:30 p.m.** A staff member reported that a person in the admissions office made a threatening remark to another staff member. PUC police questioned the person who stated it was made out of frustration. The person was warned about his conduct.

**Friday, Aug. 11, 2:40 p.m.** A staff member reported a burglary to a locked storage room in the Gyte building and a new laptop computer was taken. The computers had just recently been delivered.

**Friday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m.** A motor vehicle traffic accident occurred in the P-1 parking lot north of the Gyte building. A vehicle struck another vehicle that was parked in the adjacent space. The striking vehicle left the scene.

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POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

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**DRIVIN' BLIND  
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JOSH HOLMES BAND**

First Charity Concert at PUC  
Sponsored by The Chronicle and  
Student Government Association

Friday, September 8

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Show begins at 7 p.m.

\$5 w/ PUC ID or 2 non-perishable food items or  
articles of clean clothing  
OR

\$7 without

Proceeds and donations will benefit Haven House and  
The Rainbow Shelter in Northwest Indiana  
(Space is LIMITED! FIRST COME FIRST SERVE)



## The Chronicle

est. 1983

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Reflections of  
a chancellor

College students usually do not meet the chancellor more than two times in their academic careers, at orientation and their graduation. Students at PUC have had a chance in run into Chancellor James Yackel in the cafeteria, the library, in the halls and along the walkway in Founder's Plaza. In his 10 years as chancellor of PUC, Yackel certainly made himself accessible to students here, always with a smile and usually some form of encouragement.

The Chronicle has been just one student organization on campus which has had the privilege to have Chancellor Yackel's encouragement and continuing support. While other universities and colleges in the Region deal with censorship at the hand of administration, Yackel has provided The Chronicle with the freedom to pursue and print information, even when not in the best interest of the University's reputation.

During his time as chancellor, Yackel has been willing to comment on issues like parking, tuition increases and class scheduling. He has always been quite honest and forthcoming with information when it became available. Unlike other chancellors sometimes do, he never took the opportunity to hide behind his title.

His honesty and desire to interact with the student body was expressed in the chat forum held on The Chronicle's Web site last semester. He took an hour out of his schedule to take part in something that was

thought of as a risk. Yackel took the challenge head on and discussed everything from parking to safety on campus without

**"Unlike other chancellors sometimes do, he never took the opportunity to hide behind his title."**

wincing at even the harshest questions. His willingness to do so showed that he understood and embraced strong communication with PUC students.

Yackel also met with some of The Chronicle staff last semester at a leadership seminar sponsored by Student Leadership and Development. While learning valuable strategies and techniques of leading within our own organization, Yackel served as an example of a caring, goal-oriented professional. He spoke sincerely to us on our level, while maintaining a sense of humor. His encouraging nature helped us feel less intimidated and more apt to offer freely our own ideas on improving our newspaper and campus as a whole.

Yackel defies the stereotype of the stodgy, holier-than-thou administrator. His ability to relate to students on a comfortable level makes him even more of a respectable figure. He would be found in relaxed conversation with students and faculty alike, all with genuine interest or concern. His objective to keep all lines of communication with all facets of the University was consistently evident. With a closer relationship to our chancellor, we feel that we are important as individuals, not just more social security numbers on a list.

As his last school year begins, remember to return that smile that he has given us over the years.

## The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

*The Chronicle* welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.

## The People Speak

**Question of the Week:** What qualities do you look for in the next chancellor of PUC?



Michelle Buehrle

*freshman, elementary education/business*

"He would have to be people oriented. He also has to be fair and listen to the students."



Stephanie Halloway

*senior, communication*

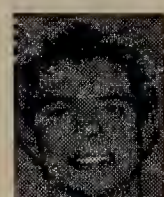
"He has to be honest, open minded, and with me coming from the creative arts department, he has to be creative."



Ryan Spencer

*freshman, CIS*

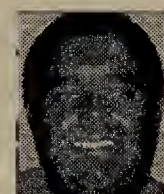
"He has to be someone that listens."



Kevin Gray

*freshman, CIS*

"He or she must be able to deal with the problems of the universe."



Cornal Davidson

*junior, chemistry*

"He or she must be someone that is concerned with students that attend the school here. They must also be concerned with the activities."



Debbie Crawford

*senior, sociology/criminal justice*

"Experience, education and life experience or common sense."

Summer flying  
causes frustration

JIM SABIN

Staff Writer

As yet another August winds down and we resume pursuing our academic goals, I would like to say a few words on a topic is most likely to be near and dear to nearly every PUC student's heart — getting away for the summer.

Actually, I would like to discuss one particular aspect of travel, flying. Make no mistake, I do not consider myself nor profess to be an expert on the airline industry, although I do pay great attention whenever a 747 takes a header with hundreds onboard. I am not, what you would call, a frequent flyer. In fact, I fly about as often as Mike Tyson plays chess or Kevin Bacon wins an Oscar.

But every time the topic of traveling arises, someone pipes-up about how great flying is. Let me tell ya, if I had a dollar for every time someone told me how great flying was, I'd actually be able to afford PUC's tuition increases.

I am here to reveal the truth to you. Your friends are lemmings! Flying is time-consuming as well as maddening! The idea that flying is the way to travel is a lie; a lie that American public has been brainwashed to believe, just as it was for nine years when it believed that Seinfeld was actually funny. Perhaps, this little blurb can help to begin to wake up the masses. Please read the following and see if you can relate to my own experiences with air travel.

After having arrived at the airport two hours before my scheduled time of departure, I am, for what seems to be an eternity, herded about like cattle through the terminal's various stations. All the while, I am treated rudely as my luggage is tossed about as if the attendants receive pay increases if they are lucky enough to break something contained within.

Once I do make it on the plane, I soon discover that the waiting game is not over. The pilot barks something over the intercom that we're "awaiting clearance" which translated means "We'll be sitting here another thirty minutes or so." What do we need clearance for anyway? Doesn't the tower know about our flight schedule? On second thought, maybe I don't want to know the answer to that question.

A few moments later, the pilot receives his clearance, and one of the attendants gets on the intercom and addresses the Yuppies. "If you have a cellular phone or personal computer on board, we're mighty impressed, but FAA regulations require that you put it away during take-

off and landing," she reveals. She continues with some words about the emergency exits. She says something to the affect of "Who knows what you're going to find in the seat pocket in front of you at this time of day, but, somewhere in there, alongside the diapers, the peanut wrappers and the empty cups, there should be a card with emergency exit information."

Once you are finally airborne, the ridiculous messages continue. There is always the "Ladies and gentlemen, we have a request that you stay in the aircraft at all times." And my personal favorite, "The flight crew will be offering you beverages and a snack later in the flight. If you need anything else, we'll be up front, gossiping and filing our nails," or something like that.

After a few hours of being trapped in that tube, that your airline calls a 7something7, you finally touchdown and experience the same delays, but in a different city. Ah, variety truly is the spice of life. Just then a lady behind the counter, wearing a scowl, mutters something to me. "What's that? My baggage is in Idaho?" I ask. After a brief pause I continue, "Hey, would you happen to have any more of those peanuts, would ya?"

**"The idea that flying is the way to travel is a lie; a lie that American public has been brainwashed to believe, just as it was for nine years when it believed that Seinfeld was actually funny."**

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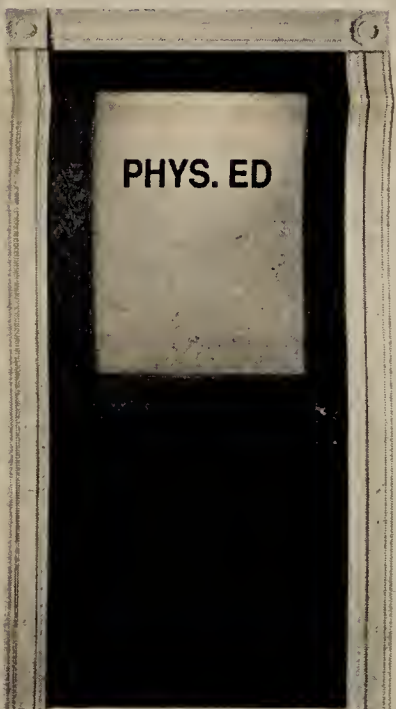
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## 'Bless the Child' sins at theaters

**JIM SABIN**  
Staff Writer

January, February and August are notorious for being motion picture studios' dumping ground for cinematic trash. The winter months follow American's spending frenzy known as Christmas. Most people at this time either don't have the petty cash to take in a new release or those that do quite possibly live in the half of the country that is under a five-inch blanket of snow. If one was so inclined and had the means to attend a screening at the quaint, local megaplex, nine times out of 10 it will be of a holiday film just nominated for a zillion Oscars.

August, on the other hand, is in a much different situation than the aforementioned months. By this time, teenagers (the movie biz's main revenue source) are heading back to school. Those that do manage to take in one final summer screening, more times than not, see the summer blockbuster of their choice for the eighth or ninth time.

Two movies this past decade have attempted to lift the stigma associated with August, those being "The Fugitive" and "The Sixth Sense." Both films, released on August's opening weekend, were box office smashes. However, these two films have done little in August's favor. Remember, as long as we have producers that will put America's favorite human-punchline Kevin Bacon in movies with no plot, mindless dialogues and mil-

lions of dollars worth of special effects, August's destiny is set in stone.

This August is no exception. "Bless the Child" is simply a mess, a bore and should not have been made. This movie is your standard "Exorcist"/"Omen" rip-off that fails miserably to generate even 1 percent of the scares those classics did.

In this doomed-from-inception production, good guys Jimmy Smits (ye of little talent) and Kim Basinger (ye of littler talent) battle Satan's henchman Rufus Sewell for custody and control of a first grade girl (Holliston Coleman) who possesses supernatural powers and a more impressive vocabulary than her adult, on-screen counterparts.

What is most distressing is that this movie symbolizes the genre, as a whole. It clearly demonstrates that Hollywood has learned nothing from Kevin Williamson's 1997 masterpiece "Scream" and now has returned to wallow in the murk of '80s-style horror. "Scream" freed us from the stale cardboard cutout characters of old and in their stead gave viewers fresh, quick-witted and most importantly, self-aware participants in dark comedy-filled romp from screen to screen and from "Scream" to "Scream."

No longer had we to endure the age-old Freddy Krueger scaring sex-crazed teens with his finger-knives in A Nightmare of Elm Street 2000 or the goalie-wannabe Jason Vorhees in Friday the 13th Part 13: The Final, Final Chapter. But alas, Hollywood missed the boat completely.

Instead of continuing to break new ground and create even more refreshing cinematic experiences, it has given us such forgettable pieces as "I Know What You Did Last Summer" and, of course, "I Still Know What You Did Last Summer."

"Bless the Child" follows the bad horror movie "rules" to the letter. Rule number one clearly states that Satan and his minions cannot be defeated with mere conventional weapons. Yet Smits fires endless rounds of, can you believe, mere bullets at the Dark Prince. Doesn't he know that there is some sacred dagger or text of spells and prayers that he has to find in order to vanquish Lucifer from their lives.

Rule number two warns characters of the dangers of arriving at Satan's lair with a search warrant in hand but with no backup. This caution is underlined when backup suddenly disappears in some sort of cheap, imitation, rock star mist.

Finally, rule number three states the good guys should, at all costs, avoid the room with a big altar in it, because, as we all know, bad things happen to good guys in there. Of course, none of the characters in this monstrosity have a clue about the rules. As a res comedy when it is not



Maggie O'Connors (Kim Basinger) teams up with her 6-year-old autistic niece Cody (Holliston Coleman) to deliver a horror film that brings back the genre of 15 years ago.

attempting to be.

"Bless the Child" (Chuck Russell) is second only to "Black and White" (James Toback) as this year's worst film. However, I would recommend this film to anyone who in a sick, demented way would like to see first-hand just how bad this movie is. I guarantee you that attending a screening of this film will spawn countless laughs and discussions. Although, I suppose the same can be said for any Kevin Bacon movie.

## Cafe Elise satisfies appetites, empties pocketbooks

**CAMILLE GONZALEZ-JENSEN**  
Staff Writer

Whether it is completing another semester or just to change my diet after eight weeks of fast food, I like to reward myself with fine dining. While reading the Chicago Tribune a few months back, I noticed that Phil Vettel had given four forks to a restaurant in Munster, Ind. This intrigued me. With all of the restaurants in Chicago, he really enjoyed this one. I had to try it for myself.

Located on busy Ridge Road, Café Elise is a hidden gem among the shops, restaurants and bars. Although to reach it you must walk through part of a strip mall, when you enter the restaurant you immediately feel a sense of richness and sophistication. The walls are sponge painted with accenting bronze, rust and gold tones. The artwork displayed is an eclectic mix of classical and more modern prints. There are potted plants and trellises to soften the view of the kitchen area.

Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" was playing as we were led to our table. Our waiter gave us a menu as well as an oral description of the seasonal entrees. We were

probably the youngest patrons in the restaurant. Although there is no posted dress code, it appeared to be dress casual. There was a person there in shorts but he looked oddly out of place. If you are planning on going, I suggest avoiding blue jeans or shorts.

We began with an appetizer of veal ravioli in a cream sauce. The pasta was cooked to perfection and the sauce had a hint of smoke flavor and sun-dried tomato. It was excellent. My entrée was ahi tuna in a mushroom cream sauce. I also tried the beef tenderloin stuffed with Gorgonzola cheese. Both entrees were served with garlic cheese mashed potatoes and a mixture of summer squash. They were also cooked over wood, which gave the meat a smoky flavor. I thought that the smoke overpowered the natural taste of the tuna, but complemented the beef. Overall, the entrees were simply put together. Much in the tradition of fine French cooking, it's all in the sauce.

For dessert, we tried polenta cake with fresh berries. Our server brought it out and explained that it did not appear to be at the right temperature. However, he served it to us anyway-and watched us take a bite. It tasted

bitter like dark chocolate, but the consistency was similar to uncooked brownie dough molded into shape. We sent it back and ordered espresso cheesecake instead which was wonderful.

Half of the experience of fine dining is the service that you receive. The table was set for a complete meal. As we moved through our dinner, our server was quick to remove any unnecessary silverware, glassware and dishes. The busboy kept the breadbasket and our water glasses full. I felt like I

was their top priority, which is such a refreshing change from the mediocre attempts made by many chain restaurants.

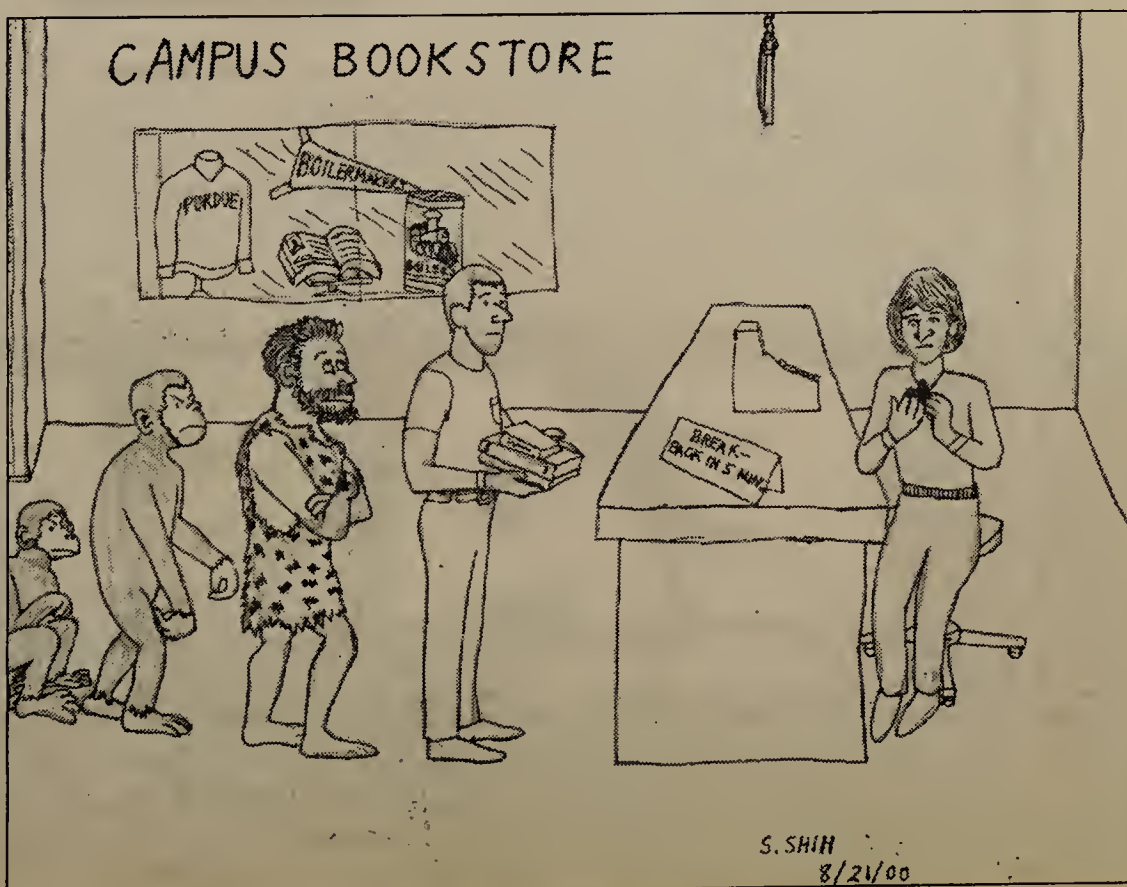
Soups and salads are a la carte and around \$6 each, entrees are between \$17 and \$24, plus drinks and dessert. Before you know it, you have spent a hefty sum. I know that fine dining costs money. However, when the bill came I didn't feel like I had gotten my money's worth. Perhaps Café Borgia in Lansing and Basil's in Michigan City have

spoiled me. Although these restaurants cater to a slightly different cuisine, mostly Northern Italian and European contemporary respectively, I have never had a bad meal or left feeling I had overpaid.

So, the bottom line is Café Elise has very good food and excellent service. Be prepared to pay for it.

Café Elise is located at 435 Ridge Road. They are open Tuesday through Friday 11:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch and from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. On Sundays, they are open from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

| Restaurant | Cafe Elise |
|------------|------------|
| Rating     | 9.5 of 10  |





# Actors, screenwriters need 'The Replacements'

**RICK PEREGOY**  
Entertainment Editor

Keanu Reeves has once again miserably proven himself as a person who can't act. Reeves can take any line of dialogue from any movie and deliver it as though he is reading from the back of a book of matches.

This time his lousy acting is an in-vein attempt to personify quarterback Shane Falco, a picket line-crossing scab who is recruited by scab coach Jimmy McGinty (Gene Hackman). McGinty encourages Falco to redeem himself for a poor performance in the 1996 Sugar Bowl by crossing a picket line and playing "pro" football.

There are 53 players on a complete football team roster, but this team, "The Washington Sentinels,"

seems to only have nine, each with his own not-so-funny quirk.

Rhys Ifans (Nigel Gruff) plays a skinny 120-pound chain-smoking place kicker who can kick the ball 65 yards, but somehow couldn't make it on any other team.

Daniel Bateman (John Favreau) is the team's resident psycho, a hyper-intensive sadist

who doesn't mind hurting even his own teammates.

Clifford Franklin (Orlando Jones of the 'Make 7-Up Yours' commercials) has world class speed, but can't catch. Jones has pure comedic abilities that could be presumed as funny even with the volume turned down. His bug eyes and his facial expressions could get laughs anywhere.

This flick has some surprisingly decent football footage balanced with some surprisingly poor football footage and poor dialogue to go with it. During practice, the speedster Franklin is running down field on a fly pattern and runs full force into a lineman who is a foot off the sidelines and not paying attention.

"That's gonna leave a mark," Falco said.

This wasn't a

funny line in the first lousy movie that it was in ("Tommy Boy"), so why would the writer steal the line?

The movie also steals a scene from the classic football film, "The Longest Yard" starring Burt Reynolds. In "The Longest Yard," the offensive line lets in a pass rusher unabated to the quarterback and the quarterback

throws the ball at the unsuspecting blitzer. It's funny in "The Longest Yard" because: A) it's original and B) Reynolds throws the football smack dab in the middle of where normal guys would least likely want to be hit smack-dab in the middle of. In "The Replacements," Falco painlessly bounces the ball off of the defenders helmet.

The script is textbook Hollywood. Develop main character (Shane Falco). Add Plot (Falco needs to lead his team to three out of four victories.) Enter love interest Brooke Langton (Annabelle Farrell), the beauty queen head cheerleader who at first tells Falco "I don't date football players".

This story becomes so predictable it is not a question of if they will get together but when.

The major motion picture studios seems to understand that after the summer blockbusters have run there course, the average movie fan will be coming up with better things to do with summer coming to an end.

A good movie script will get



Quarterback Shane Falco (Keanu Reeves) discusses the game plan with Coach Jimmy McGinty (Gene Hackman).

the viewer rooting for the main character and eventually, the plot's ultimate resolution. This movie is wanting us to root for scabs! Scabs who have crossed picket lines!

Writer Mark Steven Johnson ("Simon Birch," 1998) alienates a great deal of his audience simply with the movie's premise. This flick is suppose to be a comedy and I recalled laughing only once, and that was upon the realization that I had just paid six bucks for a hot dog and a Coke.

The Replacements was directed by Howard Duetch who has had some big hits in the past including "The Great Outdoors" (1988) and "Pretty in Pink" (1986). Both of these movies had good scripts and talented actors. "The Replacements" has a horrible script and, aside from Hackman and Farrell, deplorable acting.

There is an old saying in sports about coaching that could be applied to movie directing; "You can't coach talent!"

## Nothing to 'Cell'ebtrate about

**CAMILLE GONZALEZ-JENSEN**  
Staff Writer

Jennifer Lopez in a horror/thriller could have proven to be either extremely good or extremely bad. The product is neither, but will appeal to a select few as first time director Tarsem Singh shows us a world unlike we have ever seen.

The story opens with Catherine (Lopez) in an elaborate white gown traveling within a dream-like state with a young boy. Once she awakens, we find out that she is a social worker by trade, but was selected to participate in a breakthrough neurological technique. This technique allows one person to enter the mind of another. The theory is that the person entering is able to help bring back the person in the coma. Confused yet? Just wait, it gets better.

While Catherine is trying to gain the trust of the comatose boy, FBI agent Peter Novak (Vince Vaughn) is on the trail of a serial killer.

We are given glimpses of Carl Stagger (Vincent D'Onofrio) and some of his victims. We learn more about him through the FBI efforts to track him down. While the FBI are searching for him, Stagger kidnaps another girl and takes her to his secret place of torture and killing. Before he can go back to see if his victim is dead yet, the FBI find him and he slips into a coma. The Feds then go to Catherine and convince her to help them find his victim before it's too late.

The movie slips in and out of both the minds of the killer and Catherine. The dream-like sequences of the mind were spectacular. Many of the images were extremely graphic and disturbing depictions of torture and abuse. The costumes were inventive and unlike anything ever seen before. There was little dialogue through these scenes, the mood was reflected in the surroundings of the characters. The mind sequences also followed no set pattern. This left the audience as disoriented as the characters. One scene would be set, there would be a

pause and a fade to black and another would begin with completely different costumes and locations.

The "reality" portion of the movie is where it came up short. Vaughn was unconvincing as a hard-nosed FBI agent. His lines are delivered without emotion or feeling. Lopez, though strikingly beautiful, said little throughout the movie. It was as if the movie makers spent almost all of their money on costumes and scenery for the mind scenes and \$100 on writing and direction. Simply put, everything I saw I liked, and everything that I heard, I hated.

This movie is visually stunning and



Catherine Dean (Jennifer Lopez) falls into the arms of the twisted Carl Stagger (Vincent D'Onofrio) in the horror/thriller "The Cell."

should be appreciated on the big screen. However, if you are grossed out easily or cannot sit through a slasher horror flick, you will not enjoy this movie. Do not expect fantastic acting performances, but poignant images that will haunt you for several days.

## 'Autumn': a two-hour cliché

**CYNTHIA GUTIERREZ**  
Staff Writer

"Autumn in New York" is a sappy and romantic drama about a middle-aged Manhattan womanizer (Richard Gere) who meets and falls in love with a sweet, fatally-ill young woman (Winona Ryder). The story is cliché boy gets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl again, girl gets sick.

Charlotte (Ryder) is a 22-year-old who creates quirky-looking hats. She meets and becomes involved with Will Keen (Gere), a 48-year-old trendy restaurant owner who does not the first thing

about relationships.

Early on, he finds out that Charlotte is dying from a tumor on her heart. Will decides, after a few missteps, to stick around and becomes the better man for it.

Obstacles are thrown in the way of the relationship, and the couple must struggle to make the best of their difficult situation. In order to give Charlotte a chance for life, Gere must find a surgeon who is willing to perform a last-chance heroic operation.

And as autumn

progresses, the movie becomes even lamer. The movie lacks an interesting plot, and lacked real emotion between the two actors.

Director Joan Chen (Xiu Xiu: The Sent -Down Girl) shows Manhattan to its best advantage, but lacks the ability to show compatibility between the two actors to make this movie a hit.

|        |                            |
|--------|----------------------------|
| Movie  | Autumn in New York         |
| Actors | Richard Gere, Winona Ryder |
| Rating | 1 of 10                    |

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## High five me



**BOB GRANTZ**  
Sports Editor

Playing sports can give a person some of the best qualities they can have. Things like teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play can all be taught by playing sports. Unfortunately, along with the good comes the bad.

Sports can also teach a person some of the most stupid and pointless things they will ever learn.

One such useless thing is the high five. What is the point of the high five? I have no clue.

Some people will tell you that a high five is a way of telling someone they did a good job at something.

Yeah, you did a great job, let me slap your hand as hard as I can to let you know this.

The guys I used to be on teams with were always trying to out-do each other for strength factor in high fives. All you got from them was a sore hand, no satisfaction for a job well done.

High fives are so silly that "Seinfeld," the original show about nothing, did a whole episode on the topic.

Butt slapping is another of those pointless sports things. You have probably seen this if you ever watch football. A guy makes a good play and one of his teammates comes over and slaps him on the butt. Why?

I used to play football in high school and some of the guys on my team did this.

The first time one of them hit me on the butt I just about punched him. It is a little confusing if you are running off the field and a guy runs up and slaps your butt. I never felt anything except violated when that happened.

These are things that are only useful in the sports world. If you do well at work, does your boss give you a high five? He probably will not.

It is not very likely that he will slap you on the butt either. If he does, you may want to look into a sexual harassment case against him.

"Raising the roof" also comes from the sports world. For those of you who do not know, raising the roof is when you put your arms in the air (palms facing up) and pump your arms up and down.

This is typically done in sports after an athlete does something remotely talented. Members of a team will sometimes do this to get the crowd more into the game.

This one is also silly but has a use outside of sports: dancing. We have all seen it. You will be at a club or somewhere that a large group of people dancing and there is always someone doing this. It is not a very marketable use, but hey it is something.

These silly rituals help to perpetuate the stereotype of athletes being stupid. You put the smartest guy on earth in a game and have him smack a guy on the butt; he will end up looking stupid.

As silly as these things are, they do not need to be eliminated from sports though. They are fun little things that come from people getting into their sport.

They are strictly things that need to be part of sports only, not translated to everyday life. They just do not fit anywhere else besides the field.

Except maybe the dance floor, that is.

Questions or comments? Contact Bob Grantz at 989-2547 or grantzrj@axp.calumet.purdue.edu

**Sports writers needed...**  
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Kaylie Gura-Luken, PUC's graphic design specialist, works out on the Life Fitness Cross Trainer at the Total Fitness Center. The center added four new treadmills and two more cross trainers to their collection Friday. Memberships to the TFC are \$16 for undergraduates and \$42 for graduate students.



Photo by: Skye Enyeart

### Summer sweatin'



## Fast Break

A brief look at PUC sports

### Yoga classes offered

Yoga classes with Master Instructor Mike Zolfo will be offered in the PER building on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. It will run from Sept. 11 to Dec. 7. These classes will be open to faculty, students and the public. It will cost \$5 per class for PUC members and \$7 for non-members. Per month, it will be \$24 for members and \$40 for non-members. For more information, call the Total Fitness Center at 989-2175.

### TFC ice cream social

The Total Fitness Center and PUC Wellness Center will be sponsoring an ice cream social on Sept. 13, 14 and 20. On Sept. 13 and 14, the social will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Sept. 20, it will last from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. It will be held on the outside of the SFLC building rain or shine. Come and receive a pass for two free workouts. For more information, call the Total Fitness Center at 989-2175.

### Work to your 'Full Potential'

Full Potential is a new class being offered by the Total Fitness Center. It is a People

with Arthritis Can Exercise (PACE) class. It will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. The class will last eight weeks. Classes start Sept. 12 and run until Nov. 2. It is free to TFC members and will cost \$40 for non-members. Contact the Total Fitness Center at 989-2175 for more information.

### Fitness contest kicks off

The Total Fitness Center and PUC Wellness Center will be sponsoring "The Workout Club," a fitness contest, from Sept. 11 to Dec. 17. Each participant will receive a workout card where his or her workouts will be recorded. Twenty-five completed workouts and the participant receives either a TFC sweatshirt or t-shirt/short combination. Fifty completed workouts and the participant will receive an embroidered TFC windbreaker. There is a \$15 entry fee. For more information call the Total Fitness Center at 989-2175.

### Soccer Club call out

There will be a Soccer Club call out on Aug. 31 at 4 p.m. in room PER-143. Call 989-2175 for more information.



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